

# FBC Small-Group Materials

Week of July 2nd, 2006

Acts 2:46-47a; A Worshipping Community

## **For Small-Group Leaders**

Dear Leaders,

Did you know that you can spell “worshipping” with one “p” or two? Either spelling is correct. Just as there is more than one way to spell it, there is more than one way to experience it. Worship is multifaceted as we will discover in this week’s study.

Do we know much about worship? AW Tozer suggests not. He writes, “[Worship] is the one shining gem that is lost to the modern church, and I believe that we ought to search for this until we find it.” AW Tozer

Maybe what we thought is worship is just scratching the surface. Maybe Tozer is right, and we are like babes who have much to learn about worshipping our great God. One thing we do know. The early church was into worship. Let’s learn together from them.

Blessings to you,  
**Scott**

These small group materials are available at the info table each Sunday and at [www.fbcdavis.org](http://www.fbcdavis.org).

### **Discussion Starters:**

- **Worship:** What comes to your mind when you hear the word “worship”?
- **We All Worship:** Perhaps you have heard someone say, “We all worship someone or something.” Do you agree or disagree? If you agree, think about the people you know. What or who do they worship?

### **Discussion Questions:**

Introduction: Read Acts 2:42-47 (focusing on 2:46-47a)

1. What does this passage tell us about the nature of worship in the early church?
2. John Stott suggests that there was both a formal and informal aspect to their worship. Comment on those two different aspects of worship in the early church.
3. Do you think their worship was limited to singing? If not, what else did their worship of God involve?
4. Often, in our culture, worship is thought of in terms of what “I” do as opposed to something “we” do together. In what ways was the early church all about corporate worship?
5. In verse 47, “praising God,” seems tightly linked with “enjoying the favor of all the people.” When we link those two together, what do we learn about worship?
6. Many of the Psalms of worship in the book of Psalms are prayers or songs of lament (sadness or sorrow). In contrast, is Psalm 95. Read Psalm 95 together and brainstorm together about the different moods of worship that are conveyed in this Psalm and other Psalms. What about the different forms of worship in Psalm 95?

### **Getting Personal:**

- What does your home group do in the way of corporate worship? Is worship a “strength” of your home group or a weakness?
- What are some creative ways that your group could express worship of God together?
- Has your group ever had a focused time of thanksgiving together? Have you ever celebrated communion together? How about God sightings? Have you ever read together Psalms of praise (or lament)? For more ideas, check out the worship section in your home group leaders manual.

### **Putting it into Practice:**

- Have a worship festival together employing some of the creative forms of worship that you brainstormed above.